

Sub 2  
A10 12. (Amended) The personal care article of claim 1 wherein an absorbent core has a higher density in an area corresponding to the target area than the absorbent core outside the target area.

Sub 11  
A11 11. (Amended) A personal care article having an absorbent core with a higher density in an area corresponding to the target area than the absorbent core has outside the target area.

## Remarks

Claims 1-11 are presented for Examiner Reichle's consideration.

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.111, reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

By way of the Office Action mailed July 15, 2002 Examiner Reichle has objected to the abstract as being too lengthy, including language which may be "inferred", and including language inconsistent with that of the claims. While Applicants believe that the language of the Abstract is actually not inconsistent with that of the claims, as will later be explained, the Abstract has been amended to provide clarification and brevity. It is believed that such amendment should overcome the Examiner's objection.

The Examiner has also objected to the disclosure for including language that appears to be inconsistent. Applicants would assert that the specification defines "Target area" at page 7, lines 18-25. The "Target area" is **the surface portion or position** on a personal care product where an insult is normally delivered by the wearer. In this regard, a specific size of such an area is described. The invention is designed to specifically delay the Z-directional transfer of fluid in the Target area and below ( See page 4, lines 12-14). "Below the Target area", refers to layers below a bodyside layer (under the area of insult). See for instance, page 13, lines 19-22. Since such layers below the bodyside liner layer would delay transfer of fluid above them, such layers would affect the flow of fluid from the target area. Such effects, may include slowing fluid entry into a location of the core under the target area, or alternatively, enhancing the flow of fluid to areas of the core not directly below the target area, (areas outside the target area). See for instance page 15, lines 22-25, page 16, lines 1-5. As is particularly clear by the specification, areas of the core or other layers which may be treated or left untreated in some fashion, include areas which